

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 22 are pending in the application, with Claims 1, 2, 14, 17, 19 and 21 having been amended. Claims 1, 14, 17, 19 and 21 are the independent claims herein. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 1 through 9 and 14 through 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,058,460 ("Nakhimovsky"). Claims 10 through 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakhimovsky in view of *The Processing Element* ("Liljeqvist"). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

Claim 1

Amended independent claim 1 describes a method comprising retrieving a set of programming statements from a storage device associated with a multithreaded network processing element. The network processing element has a local memory. The method also includes arranging for a first portion of the local memory to be allocated to a first thread context in accordance with a programming statement. The programming statement associated with a first thread symbolically references a buffer name and includes an indication of a read/write status of the first portion. The method also includes arranging for a second portion of the local memory to be allocated to a second thread context in accordance with a programming statement. The programming statement associated with a second thread symbolically references the buffer name and includes an indication of a read/write status of the second portion. The symbolically referenced buffer name includes both letters and numbers.

The art of record is not seen to disclose or to suggest the above features of amended independent claim 1. In particular, the art of record is not seen to disclose or to suggest a portion of local memory allocated to a thread by a programming statement that includes an indication of

a read/write status of the portion and symbolically references a buffer name wherein the symbolically referenced buffer name includes both letters and numbers. Nakhimovsky relates to a method of allocating memory in a multithreaded computing environment using memory pools. Nakhimovsky, at column 4 line 52 through column 5 line 6, describes that each thread allocates memory for its memory pool using memory management routines. The only memory management routines listed are *malloc*, *free*, and *realloc* where *malloc* allocates a requested number of bytes up to the maximum size of the memory pool and returns a pointer that is the starting address of the memory allocated. *Free* releases allocated memory blocks, and *realloc* adjusts the size of memory blocks. The memory blocks are numbered and Nakhimovsky, at column 5 line 48 through column 6 line 4, describes a memory pool numbering system where NUM_POOLS is the number of memory pools. The memory pools are numbered 0 to NUM_POOLS -1.

Accordingly, Nakhimovsky is not seen to disclose or suggest a portion of local memory allocated to a thread by a programming statement that includes an indication of a read/write status of the portion and symbolically references a buffer name wherein the symbolically referenced buffer name includes both letters and numbers.

The remaining art of record has been reviewed and is not seen to remedy the foregoing deficiencies in Nakhimovsky. Therefore, the art of record, taken in any permissible combination is not seen to disclose or suggest a portion of local memory allocated to a thread by a programming statement that includes an indication of a read/write status of the portion and symbolically references a buffer name wherein the symbolically referenced buffer name includes both letters and numbers.

In view of the foregoing, amended independent claim 1 is believed to be in condition for allowance. Claims 2 through 13 depend from claim 1 and are therefore also believed to be allowable for at least the foregoing reasons.

Amended independent claims 14, 17, 19, and 21 relate to an article, an article, a system and a method respectively in which a portion of local memory is allocated to a thread by a programming statement that includes an indication of a read/write status of the portion and symbolically references a buffer name wherein the symbolically referenced buffer name includes both letters and numbers.

CONCLUSION

The outstanding Office Action presents a number of characterizations regarding the applied references, some of which are not directly addressed herein because they are not related to the rejections of the independent claims. Applicants do not necessarily agree with the characterizations and reserve the right to further discuss those characterizations.

For at least the reasons given above, it is submitted that the entire application is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience. Alternatively, if there remains any question regarding the present application or any of the cited references, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of the present application, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned via telephone at (203) 972-4981.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date



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